

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TAIPEI 00835 190954Z

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ACTION EA-06

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FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4262

C O N F I D E N T I A L TAIPEI 0835

STADIS LIMDIS//////////

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, TW

SUBJECT: PROPOSED VISIT OF CG III MAF

REF: A. TAIPEI 7377

B. STATE 274567

1. DEPT WILL RECALL OUR CONCURRENCE IN GE. POGGEMEYER'S VISIT TO TAIWAN BECAUSE OF SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES INVOLVED (REFTELS). NOW COMUS TDC, ADMIRAL SNYDER, HAS ASKED FOR OUR CONCURRENCE IN A VISIT BY GENERAL POGGEMEYER'S REPLACEMENT, MAJOR GENERAL CARL W. HOFFMAN, FOR THREE DAYS SOME TIME IN MARCH. VISIT WOULD BE LARGELY TO INTRODUCE GENERAL HOFFMAN, WITH CALLS ON CHIEF OF GENERAL STAFF, CINC NAVY, GENERAL CHANGE OF CSF, AND COMMANDANT MARINE CORPS.

2. GENERAL HOFFMAN IS PRINCIPAL USMC COMMANDER IN WESPAC, AND A 7TH FLEET TASK FORCE COMMANDER, WITH AIR AS WELL AS GROUND UNITS UNDER HIS COMMAND. SOME OF THOSE UNITS PULL LIBERTY FROM TIME TO TIME IN TAIWAN PORTS. ALSO, IN EMERGENCY/EVACUATION SITUATION ANYWHERE IN AREA, HIS UNITS COULD BE TASKED TO ASSIST. ADMIRAL SNYDER FEELS STRONGLY THAT HE NEEDS TO MAINTAIN LIAISON WITH ALL 7TH FLEET COMMANDERS, INCLUDING GENERAL HOFFMAN, AND THAT GENERAL HOFFMAN SHOULD BE INTRODUCED TO ROC TOP-RANKING OFFICERS RELATED TO HIS RESPONSIBILITIES.

3. IN VIEW OF ADMIRAL SNYDER'S STRONG SUPPORT FOR IT

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I AM INCLINED TO CONCUR IN HOFFMAN'S VISIT, BUT SEEK

DEPARTMENT'S CONCURRENCE. I WOULD PROPOSE THAT GENERAL HOFFMAN (AND OTHER US MILITARY OFFICERS IN SIMILAR OVERSEAS COMMAND POSITIONS IN THE FUTURE) MAKE A SINGLE VISIT TO TAIWAN FOR PURPOSE OF INTRODUCTION AND ORIENTATION TOWARD THE BEGINNING OF THEIR TOUR OF DUTY.
UNGER

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